

government.

Web-based graduate program

The Signal Center also offers a web-based graduate education program for all Signal Regiment members. The site's intent is to provide Branch 25, FA 24 and FA 53 officers; military-occupation specialty 250 and 251 series warrant officers; enlisted soldiers; and civilians with information on the various IT-related graduate degrees at various universities.

University of Maryland University College is the first university included in the program. UMUC offers on-line master of science degrees in information technology, software engineering, computer-systems management, telecommunications management and technology management.

For officers in the field, the standard on-line graduate courses from UMUC are available from any location in the world. UMUC offers full student services on-line, so students may complete the admissions and registration process through the UMUC website. Courses are asynchronous, so time zones don't matter. All

that's needed to participate is a personal computer with a web browser and a network connection or modem to the worldwide web.

Training with Industry

The Training with Industry program was initiated in the 1970s in response to the Army's critical need for officers with state-of-the-art skills in industrial practices and procedures not available through military or civilian education programs. The first students participated exclusively in programs supporting the development of material-acquisition and logistics-management related skills. Today the TWI program has evolved to include training programs supporting marketing, public affairs, artificial intelligence, physical security, finance, computer science, IT, tactical Internet and many other fields.

The Army's main objective in sponsoring TWI is to develop a group of soldiers experienced in higher-level managerial techniques and with an understanding of how their industry relates to specific functions of the Army. Once the TWI student is inte-

grated back into an Army organization, he or she can use this information to improve the Army's ability to interact and conduct business with industry. Participants may also be exposed to innovative industrial management practices, techniques or procedures that may apply to and benefit the Army. A prime example of this would be the Signal Regiment's Warfighter Information Network, an architecture designed to use commercial-off-the-shelf equipment in fielding the 21st century's tactical and strategic communications systems.

Currently the Signal Regiment has 10 officers participating in TWI at Air Force Space Command in Colorado; Army Spectrum Management Office, Alexandria, Va.; ITT, Fort Wayne, Ind.; TRW, Carson, Calif.; Boeing Computer Services, Seattle, Wash.; Armed Forces Communications and Electronics Association, Washington, D.C.; Rockwell International, Richardson, Texas; AT&T, Holmdel, N.J.; EDS, Plano, Texas; and Raytheon, Fort Wayne.



A rainbow over East Timor greets Signaleers serving on the international forces during Operation Stabilise.



A commo van and antenna can change an empty spot into a communications relay. The Signal Regiment's mobile communications capability can create commo links anywhere in the world.

❖ *The challenges are real; the mission is global; the opportunities are limitless.*